Secl. II-37—100,000—21-5-48.

Food (1948) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No.	520
Dated	9.6.1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

...urity measures - Madras Province - Enforcement - Reply to ...s of India - Papers recorded.

No. RP/1085/7.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Ministry of Food.

New Delhi, the 29th March 1948.

From

N.G. Abhyankar, Esq., M.Sc. (London),
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

To

All Provinces, Administrations and States.

Sub:- Austerity measures.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's circular letter No. RP-1085 of 4th June 1946 on the above subject and to state as follows.

2. As a corollary to the Revised Food Policy it has been noticed that some of the austerity measures adopted during the last four years with a view to secure maximum economy in food consumption have been relaxed in certain areas. The Government of India have given careful consideration to this matter in the context of the New Food Policy. They consider that while some of the austerity measures may not be applicable now, in view of the difficult food position in certain areas in India notably Madras, the need for securing maximum economy and avoiding waste in the use of food grains has not been reduced in any way and most of the measures should be continued and enforced effectively during 1948. I am to restate below for information and action by your Government the views of the Government of India on the principal austerity measures followed in the past.

I. The limitation of guests at functions where meals are served:- The orders limiting the maximum number of persons to be served at public or private functions to 25 or below should continue to be enforced. These orders are sometimes shought to be evaded by nominating one or more hosts and this should be prohibited.

II. Notice to be given by caterer and host if more than 20 persons are to be served at a function:- This is a corollary to the limitation of guests order and should be continue.

III. Ban on making ice-cream and Khoya from milk and ban on the use of milk and milk products in making sweetmeats for distribution and sale:- These restrictions help in conserving the available milk supplies in areas where milk is short and should, therefore, be continued. An exception, however, might be made in regard to the manufacture of ice-cream from the American Ice-cream milk powder which does not require addition of milk or sugar for conversion.

IV. Three-course meals restriction in Restaurants and Establishment:- These restrictions should continue. Similar restrictions should be imposed on Hors d'oeuvre menus.

V. Extraction rates for flour and atta:- The orders requiring flour mills to work to an extraction percentage between 85 per cent and 95 per cent should continue to be in force.

VI. Supply of extra foodgrains for religious and social festivals:- No extra supplies on such special occasions should be permitted.

VII. Prohibition on use of cereals or products in the making of cakes, pastries, sweetmeats:- The use of cereals for these

purposes should continue to be prohibited.

VIII. The following restrictions imposed in European-styled establishments should continue:-

(a) Prohibition of service of rice.
(b) Restriction to one slice of baker's bread or one roll per person at a meal.
(c)

IX. Restriction of bread and/or cereals including rice to 6 Oz. per day per person in Establishments in rationed areas.

X. Prohibition of service of snacks containing any portion of cereals or their products in Establishments in rationed areas.

XI. Periodical inspection of the food stores of establishments and ~~check~~ checking on the basis of the indents for supplies by the Establishments.

The procedure followed in this respect should be followed in future.

3. The Government of India appreciate that the enforcement of the above austerity measures might prove to be more difficult in respect of derationed areas than those in the rationed areas. They attach importance to the necessity for enforcing these measures rigidly both in rationed and derationed areas. I am, therefore, to request the Provincial/State Government to consider this matter and send a report to this Ministry giving detailed information of how your Government propose to continue and enforce the austerity measures.

Your most obedient
Servant,

x x x x
For Deputy Secretary to the
Govt. of India.

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BOARD OF REVENUE (CIVIL SUPPLIES).
ABSTRACT.

Rationing - Austerity measures - Enforcement.

Board's L.Dis. 54175/K1/48.
Madras. Dated 17th May 1948.

From

V.S. Hejmadi, Esq., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

Sri. Rao Saheb E. Virabhadra Pillai, B.A.,
Provincial Controller of Food Rationing.

Read:- Government Memorandum No. 16293/B/48-1, Food, dated 26.4.1948.

With reference to the points raised in the letter of the Government of India forwarded with the Government Memorandum cited, the Board invites the attention of the Government in their letters addressed to the Government of India, Food Department, No. 1902/B/46-3, dated 30.7.1947 and No. 36303/B/47-3, dated 26.8.1947 and submits the following remarks:-

Para 1 - sub-para 2(i) the limitation of guests at

functions where meals are served:- Under the orders issued in G.O. No. 1158, Food, dated 17.12.1946, no person shall give or allow to be given or take food at any party, at which the number of persons to whom food is served in any form including the person or persons giving the party, exceeds 30. The number of participants at a marriage party has been restricted to 50 in G.O. Ms. No. 791, Food, dated 10.7.1947.

Both the orders continue to be in force throughout the Province. Even hosts are included in the number of participants. No cases of evasion of these orders by nominating one or more hosts have come to the notice of the Board so far. The Board considers that no further elaboration of the existing orders is necessary and that they may continue as they are.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(ii) Notice to be given by the caterer and host if more than 20 persons are to be served at a function:-

The number of participants at a party has been limited and wide publicity has been given through Press Notes, etc. There is no necessity to make it obligatory on the part of those who give parties to notify to the Rationing or Civil Supplies authorities when the number of persons to be entertained is less than the number allowed as no useful purpose would be served by doing so.

Para 1 -sub-para 2(iii) Ban on making ice-cream and khoya from milk and ban on the use of milk and milk products in making sweetmeats for distribution and sale:-With the present policy of the Government to decontrol as many commodities as possible, the Board does not consider it necessary to re-impose the Madras Milk (Use in catering Establishments) Order, 1945, which was rescinded in G.O.Ms. No. 341, Food, dated 26.3.1947. There is no acute scarcity of milk in Madras City and in the districts. No action is therefore necessary.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(iv) Three courses meals restriction in Restaurants and Establishments:- Under the Madras Food (Restricti of Service of Meals by Catering Establishments) Order, 1947, as subsequently amended, the number of courses to be served at a meal in Catering Establishments both in Indian andEuropean styles has been restricted to three courses and the choice of the dish has been prohibited except in the case of substantial dish when consumers will be allowed the choice of either a hot dish or a cold dish, the latter having been allowed to consist of assorted cold meats. It has also been ordered that the kinds of "Horsed'oeuvre' served shall not exceed three. This order continues to be in force throughout the Province and no further action is necessary.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(v) Extraction rates for flour and atta:-This Province does not manufacture sooji, rava or maida at any rate, not on an appreciable scale, nor are whole-meal or whole-meal flour for bread, etc, are extracted. Hence no remarks are called for on this suggestion.

However it may be pointed out that in pursuance of the general instructions issued by the Government of India to all Provinces, the Government of Madras in their order No. 940, Food, dated 22.8.1947, restricted the output of flour and bran in milling wheat in this Province. This order is in force throughout this Province.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(vi) Supply of extra foodgrains for religious and social festivals:- In their Order No. 357, Food, dated 15.5.1946, the Government have already the maximum cereal rations that should be allowed for religious functions and ceremoni Most of the rations are not at all drawn and the quantity involved small. In view of the fact that only minimum requirements have been provided for and that the very small savings that could be effected at the cost of interfering with the cherished religious customs ar manners of the people is not worth while, the Board considers that

the existing instructions may stand. This order has real effect only in rationed areas, as no such rations are issued at present in derationed areas. No change in the present position is necessary.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(vii) Prohibition on the use of cereals or products in the making of cakes, pastries, sweetmeats:- In view of the large supplies of wheat and wheat flour originally received in this Province, it was decided not to restrict the preparation of cakes and biscuits, etc. In view of the present short supply of maida, the biscuit manufacturers and other confectioneries are at present allowed the following cereals for the preparation of cakes, biscuits, etc.

Maida (wheat flour). 1/6th of the quota.
Maize or maize flour. 1/5/6th of the quota.
(the quota referred to is 50% of the original quota).

As only a very small quantity of the original quota (viz. 1/12th) is being issued as maida at present, no further restriction seems necessary at this stage. When Maida is not available, these establishments are issued their quota in the shape of whole wheat. They are also being issued small quantities of wheat in deteriorated condition at the discretion of the Collectors concerned so as to dispose of these stocks.

Non-meals hotels are given only 25% of their basic quota in the shape of broken rice, if available, for the preparation of savouries which cannot be prepared without an admixture of rice flour. They are also given 8 1/3% of their quota as wheat, which is used for the preparation of cakes, etc. In either case it is not desirable to prohibit the preparation of cakes, etc. The preparation of rice iddlies, even out of the broken rice allowed to the catering establishments was prohibited in this Province from October 1947, and this was lifted in March 1948, in furtherance of the policy of general decontrol.

Trash bazars are also allowed the issue of broken rice. These are run by the poor women and catering only to labouring classes. Denial of supply would throw the women out of employment and would also cause serious inconvenience to labourers.

In view of the above and as there will not be sufficient staff in the derationed areas to enforce any prohibition in this regard, the existing orders do not call for any change.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(viii) European styled establishments:-

(a) Prohibition of service of rice.

(b) Restriction to one slice of baker's bread or one roll per person at a meal.

(a) Hotels and clubs which serve meals in European style are not allowed any rice ration under the existing orders and hence they cannot serve rice to persons taking meals in European style.

(b) The Government have considered that prescribing the number of slices per meal is too meticulous. A person may like 2 slices at lunch and more at breakfast or vice versa. Besides, the issue of bread is restricted only to habitual bread eaters and establishments. Hence no restrictions were imposed on the serving of the slices or rolls and no change is necessary at present.

In derationed areas, the establishments serving meals in European style may be able to get rice in the open market and serve to customers. There is no statutory order prohibiting such serving. Any fresh order will not serve any useful purpose as they are not being given rations by the Government. Such of these establishments

which get their supplies either partially or wholly from the Government stocks, will no doubt observe the restriction.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(ix) Restriction of bread and/or cereals including rice to 6 ounces per day per person in Establishments in rationed areas:- The conditions stated in para 3 of the Government's letter No. 36303/B/47-3, Food, dated 28.8.1947 still exist and no change is necessary.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(x) Prohibition of service of snacks containing any portion cereals or their products in Establishments in rationed areas:- This applies only to the rationed cereals in the rationed areas. All the clubs and hotels in Madras City and other areas have been asked not to serve any snacks made of cereals outside regular meals.

As regards snacks made out of rice or broken rice, all preparations in non-meals hotels come under this category. As the supply of rice has been totally stopped to non-meals establishments and only small quantities of broken rice issued, no further restrictions are necessary.

Para 1 - sub-para 2(xi) Periodical inspection of food stores of establishments and checking on the basis of indents for supplies by the establishments:- This is possible only in the rationed areas and instructions contained in Board's Reference No. 630/K4/46 dated 25.7.1946 are being followed by all the Rationing Officers in all the Statutorily rationed areas and the Revenue Officers in the rural areas of Malabar and the Nilgiris districts. No further instructions are necessary.

x x x x

For Provincial Controller of
Food Rationing.

To

The Secretary to Government, Food Department, Fort St. George, Madras.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Food Department.

Letter No. 16293/B/48-4.

From

Sri. M.A. Kuttalalingam Pillai, B.A.,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Food,
New Delhi.

Dated, Fort St. George, the 31st May 1948.

Sir,

Sub:- Austerity measures.

Ref:- Your letter No. RP/1085/7 dated 29.3.1948.

With reference to the suggestions contained in para 2 of your letter cited, I am directed to reply as follows:-

The limitation of guests at functions where meals are served:- Under the existing orders in this Province, no person

shall give or allow to be given or take food at any party other than a marriage party, at which the number of persons to whom food is served in any form including the person or persons giving the party exceeds 30. In the case of marriage parties the number of persons that can be fed has been fixed at 50, including, the bridge, bridegroom, their relatives and guests and the feeding should be limited to the marriage day and only two meals should be served on that day - Both these orders continue to be in force throughout the Province. No cases of evasion of these orders by nominating one or more hosts have come to the notice of this Government. Instructions have been issued to the subordinate officers to enforce these orders rigidly both in the rationed and de-rationed areas.

2. Notice to be given by caterer and host if more than 20 persons are to be served at a function:-

The number of persons to be fed at parties has been limited and wide publicity has been given to the orders by press notes, etc. This Government do not consider it necessary to make it obligatory on the part of those who give parties to notify to the Rationing or Civil Supplies Authorities, when the number of persons to be entertained is more than 20 but less than the number allowed, as no useful purpose could be served by doing so.

3. Ban on making ice-cream and khoya from milk and ban on the use of milk and milk products in making sweetmeats for distribution and sale:- The Madras Milk (use in catering Establishments) Order, 1945, was rescinded by this Government in March 1947. There is at present no acute scarcity of milk in this Province. When the present policy is to gradually decontrol this Government do not consider it necessary to reimpose control over the use of milk and milk products in making sweetmeats for distribution and sale.

4. Three courses-meals restriction in restaurants and establishments:- Under the Madras Food (Restrictions on Service of Meals by Catering Establishments) Order, 1947, the number of courses to be served at a meal in catering establishments has been restricted to three and the choice of the dish has been prohibited except in the case of substantial dish when consumers will be allowed the choice of either a hot dish or a cold dish, the latter having been allowed to consist of asserted cold meats. The kinds of "horsd'oeuvre' to be served has also been restricted to three. This ordr continues to be in force throughout the Province.

5. Extraction rates for fleur and atta:- This Province does not manufacture sooji, rava, or maida or at any rate, not on an appreciable scale, nor are wholemeal atta or whole meal fleur for bread, etc are extracted. However this Government have restricted the output of bran in milling wheat in this Province to five per cent of the whole wheat.

6. Supply of extra foodgrains for religious and social festivals:- This Government have already fixed the maximum cereal rations that should be allowed for religions functions and ceremonies Most of the rations are not at all drawnand the quantity involved is small. In view of the fact that only minimum requirements have been provided for and that the very small saving that could be effected at the cost of interfering with the cherished religious customs and manners of people is not worthwile, this Government consider that the existing instructions to issue special rations for religious ceremonies should continue. These instructions are applicable to rationed areas only. No such special rations are issued in derationed areas.

7. Prohibition on use of cereals or products in the making of cakes, pastris.sweetmeats:- This Government have not prohibited by statutory orders, the use of cereals or products in making of cakes, pastries and sweetmeats. However the preparation of rice iddlies in catering establishments had been prohibited by executive instructions from October 1947 to March 1948. In further-

ance of the policy of decontrol, this prohibition was also lifted. The scale and composition of cereal rations to biscuit manufacturers and other confectioneries, non-meals hotels, etc are altered from time to time with reference to availability of different kinds of cereals. This Government do not consider it necessary to impose a total prohibition on the use of cereals or products in the making of cakes, pastries, sweetmeats, etc at this stage.

8. European styled establishments:-

(a) Prohibition of service of rice:- There is no statutory order prohibiting the serving of rice to consumers by European styled establishments. However hotels and clubs in rationed areas which serve meals in European style are not allowed any rice ration in this Province and hence they cannot serve rice to persons taking meals in European style.

In derationed areas, the establishments serving meals in European style may be able to get rice in the open market and serve to consumers. This Government consider that any fresh order will not serve any useful purpose as these establishments are not given rations by the Government. Such of those establishments which get their supplies either partially or wholly from Government stocks will be directed to observe the restriction.

(b) This Government consider that prescribing the number of slices per meal is too meticulous. A person may like 2 slices at lunch and more at breakfast or vice versa. Besides the issue of bread is restricted only to habitual bread eaters and establishments. This Government do not consider it necessary to impose any restriction on the serving of slices or rolls at a meal.

9. Restriction of bread and/or cereals including rice to 6 ounces per day per person in establishments in rationed areas:- I am directed to invite attention to para 3 of this Government's letter No. 36303/B/47-3, dated 26.8.1947 and to say that they have no further remarks to add in the matter.

10. Prohibition of service of snacks containing any portion of cereals or their products in establishments in rationed areas:- Clubs and hotels in the rationed areas of this Province have been asked not to serve any snacks made of cereals outside regular meals. As regards snacks made out of rice or broken rice, all preparations in non-meals hotels come under this category. As the supply of rice has been totally stopped to non-meals establishments and only small quantities of broken rice are issued, this Government consider that no furtner restrictions are necessary.

11. Periodical inspection of food stores of establishments and checking on the basis of indents for supplies by establishments:-

This is possible only in the rationed areas. Instructions have been issued for the periodical inspection of stocks of establishments by rationing officials.

Yours faithfully,

M.A. Kuttalalingam Pillai,
Secretary to Government.

Copy to the Regional Food Commissioner, Southern Region.
Copy to the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies).

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FOOD DEPARTMENT

The Government of India's letter at pages 11-12 c.f. and the Board's remarks at pages 21-25 c.f. may be perused. A draft reply to India is submitted above for approval.

The continuance of the austerity measures will be necessary till all food controls go.

The above draft reply which sets out our present position in regard to austerity measures may issue. We satisfy substantially the requirements of India.

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28.5.

x x x
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M.A.K.
31.5.

No further action is necessary in this file. The papers may be recorded.

x x x
8.6.

G.O. Ms. No. 520 dated 9.6.1948.

Food austerity measures - Madras Province - Enforcement - Reply to Government of India - Papers recorded.

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/True copy/

R. Nagarajan
1.2.54
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

k.y.s.

13/12.